It is good to see that Florida is being “recognized as the top Virtual School provider in the nation[[1]](#footnote-1),” especially since the northern part of the state is more sparsely populated and rural. But after looking into the program a bit more, I found myself coming away with more concerns for students than feelings of the mass potential of this large scale program. Many of the doubts I have are in regard to maturity and social development; which when you think about it, social development is just another more interactive form of maturity, but I will start with the few positives I see to this statewide program.

A few online classes here and there for high school students, regardless of the subject matter will prepare them for the inevitability that they will run into one, if not more online classes at the collegiate level. This ease of transition will greatly aid the student due to the fact that the FLVS seems more complicated to set up, manage, and progress through than any Blackboard course I have witnessed to date. The other positive that I took note of was the “praise the program was receiving from former Governor Crist.[[2]](#footnote-2)” With state legislative support like that, comes almost unlimited resources, also known as money to bolster the program and even expand it into new horizons.

My most pressing concearns come from the from the simple fact that if elementary, middle, and especially high schools students do not get to attend a public, private, or even charter school setting; they will not be able to develop normal social relationships. The physical school system is where students learn who they are, develop lifelong friendships, engage in sporting interests, and even have their first experiences with dating. If you take this away for a completely online substitute, this may lead to a very awkward and terrifying reclusive experience at the collegiate level. Also online classes are tough, it takes a certain high level of maturity to push yourself to complete them, and I am not so sure if anybody below the collegiate level of schooling is ready for a full time online schooling. The lack of motivation and level of distractions just seem almost insurmountable to me.

I am not saying this cannot work because there are students doing it diligently at this very moment, it just takes an extremely dedicated young individual. I would also be interested to see how that person functions in a large or small public or private college or university, socially speaking.

**Accepted WV course list by FLVS**

1. AP Art History
2. Health Opportunities through Physical Education
3. Life Management Skills
4. Algebra I
5. Algebra I Honors
6. Algebra II
7. Algebra II Honors
8. AP Calculus AB
9. AP Calculus BC
10. Pre-Calculus Honors
11. Geometry
12. 8th Grade Mathematics
13. Math 6 Semester 1
14. Math 6 Semester 2
15. Math 7 Semester 1
16. Math 7 Semester 2
17. AP Statistics
18. Adaptive PE IEP/504
19. Fitness Lifestyle Design
20. Personal Fitness
21. 8th Grade English Language Arts
22. AP English Language and Composition
23. English 6 Semester 1
24. English 6 Semester 2
25. English 7 Semester 1
26. English 7 Semester 2
27. English 9 Semester 1
28. English 9 Semester 2
29. English 10 Semester 1
30. English 10 Semester 2
31. English 11 Semester 1
32. English 11 Semester 2
33. English 12 Semester 1
34. English 12 Semester 2
35. Reading MS – Semester 1
36. Reading MS – Semester 2
37. AP Literature and Composition
38. AP Biology
39. Biology/Biology Honors
40. Chemistry
41. Physics
42. Earth Science
43. Marine Science
44. American Government
45. AP Government and Politics: United States
46. AP Macroeconomics
47. AP Microeconomics
48. Economics
49. M/J World Geography
50. World History
51. AP Psychology
52. Global Studies
53. AP Human Geography
54. AP United States History
55. M/J US History
56. AP Computer Science A
57. Business Applications I-Semester 1
58. Business Applications I-Semester 2
59. Leadership Skills Development
60. Web Page Publishing-Semester 1
61. Web Page Publishing-Semester 2
62. Latin I
63. Latin II
64. Latin II Honors
65. Spanish I

**Web Citations**

1. WVDOE (2014) Course Catalog “Accepted WV course list by FLVS” Retrieved February, 2, 2014 from <http://virtualschool.k12.wv.us/vschool/courses/coursecatalog.cfm>
2. Florida Virtual School (2012) What is FLVS “Learn More on Courses Offered” Retrieved February 2, 2014 from <http://www.flvs.net/Pages/default.aspx>

1. DOE. (2008, December 9) Press Release “Florida Virtual School recognizing Florida as the top provider of virtual education in the nation” Retrieved February 2, 2014 from <http://www.fldoe.org/news/2008/2008_12_09.asp> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. #### DOE. (2008, December 9) Press Release “Governor Crist Praises Florida’s Virtual Education” Retrieved February 2, 2014 from <http://www.fldoe.org/news/2008/2008_12_09.asp>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)